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# *THYRIS MACULATA* (THYRIDIDAE) AND THREE SPECIES OF CLEARWING MOTHS (SESIIDAE) ATTRACTED TO AN ARTIFICIAL CHEMICAL BAIT

Attraction of female sex pheromones for males of many members of the Sesiidae is well known (Sharp et al., 1978, Florida Entomol. 61(4):245–250; 1979, Entomol. Soc. Amer. Symposium "Pheromones of Sesiidae." ARR-NE-6:35–46; Reed et al., 1981, Environ. Entomol. 10(4):488–491), and it was interesting to discover that a moth representing another family is also attracted to at least one of these compounds. I spent most of July and August of 1980 collecting male clearwing moths with the aid of a sex attractant containing mostly the Z,Z isomer of 3,13-octadecadien-1-ol acetate (Z,Z-ODDA), a main component in the pheromone system of many sesiids. For a review of a sex attractant study see Duckworth and Eichlin (1977, J. Lepid. Soc. 31:191–196). The lure was kindly provided for my use by John Holoyda, whose interest in the Sesiidae induced me to participate in this study. The lure strip was enclosed in a piece of nylon netting material and pinned to the frame of my collecting net.

The study sites were mostly virgin prairie remnants in northeastern Illinois that have miraculously escaped the plow and the bulldozer, which years ago converted most of the Grand Prairie of Illinois to man's commercial uses. On 6 July I entered Harlem Hills Nature Preserve, a 53-acre dry upland prairie in Winnebago Co. Situated on the outskirts of Rockford, the prairie was dedicated as a Nature Preserve in 1973. Although surrounded by residential development it remains a relatively intact pathway into Illinois' past, when the State abounded with grasses and wildflowers of every description. About 0930 to 0940 CDT I observed several sesiids hovering around my net and zeroing in on the attractant. I netted specimens of two species, subsequently identified as *Carmenta anthracipennis* (Bdv.) and *Albuna fraxini* (Hy. Edw.), the former being the more common of the two. Individuals were so intent on locating the source of the lure that they paid scant attention to my efforts with the net.

While attending to some freshly captured specimens, I observed a very small moth near my net, hovering in much the same manner as the two sesiid species just encountered. After netting and examining the tiny specimen, I saw that it was not a sesiid but rather a moth of a different family. It was latter identified as *Thyris maculata* (Harris). Though apparently wide ranging from eastern United States through Texas into Mexico, this thyridid species is uncommon in collections (from unpublished data).

Before leaving the prairie site I collected one additional specimen of *T. maculata*, a few more *A. fraxini* specimens, and a long series of *C. anthracipennis*.

The day was intermittently sunny and overcast, but the changes in cloud cover did not seem to affect the activity of the male sesiids coming to the bait. Without the use of the attractant this would not have been the case, I'm certain; I have never observed clearwing moths nectaring on any but bright sunny days. Later on in the summer I collected specimens of *C. anthracipennis* in Lake, Cook and McHenry Counties in northeastern Illinois, all from similar prairie habitats and all captured when attracted to the same lure. This sex attractant also contributed to the capture of a third sesiid species, *Synthandon exitiosa* (Say), the species from which the Z,Z isomer had been extracted, identified and ultimately synthesized. Two specimens of the latter were collected on the three acre Cary Prairie, Cary, McHenry Co. on 7 August. This tiny parcel of natural prairie is situated in the middle of town, surrounded by homes and a Junior High School.

Specimens of *S. exitiosa* were also collected at Warren Dunes State Park, Berrien Co., Michigan on 26 August. These moths were encountered along the Lake Michigan bathing beach, having flown from some place farther inland.

One specimen of *T. maculata* has been placed in the collection of the Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS), Urbana, and the other has been retained in my own collection

temporarily. Specimens of all three sesiid species have been placed in the INHS collection, in the collection of John Holoyda, Chicago, and the remainder I have retained.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge with warm thanks the help given me by Dr. Thomas D. Eichlin, Insect Taxonomy Laboratory, Department of Food and Agriculture, Sacramento, California, in examining and determining the identity of *T. maculata* and the three sesiid species.

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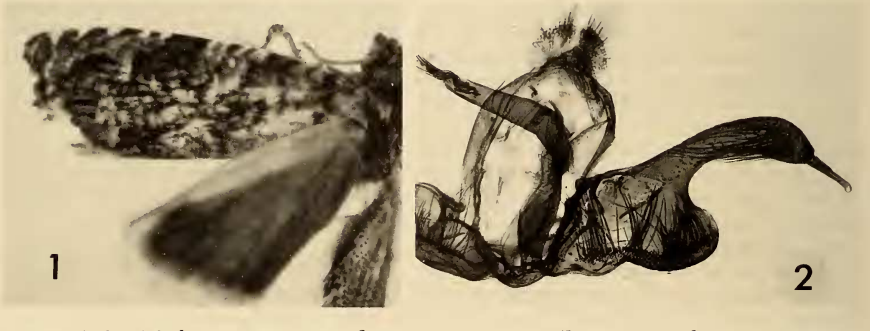
## *EUCOSMOMORPHA ALBERSANA* (HÜBNER), A PALAEARCTIC SPECIES, COLLECTED IN NORTH AMERICA (TORTRICIDAE, GRAPHOLITINI)

Among undetermined olethreutine moth specimens in the Michigan State University Entomology Museum, I discovered a single male of *Eucosmomorpha albersana* (Hübner) (Figs. 1, 2). Label data include Midland Co., Mich., June 2, 1961, R. R. Dreisbach, genit prep PJ 163. The genus *Eucosmomorpha* has not previously been reported in North America.

*Eucosmomorpha* Obraztsov, 1951 is monobasic (Obraztsov, N. S., 1961, Tijd. Entomol. 104:51–70). Its structural distinctness makes it unlikely to be confused with any other genus. The Palaearctic distribution of the one described species. *E. albersana,* is extensive: from the United Kingdom and Scandinavia east into Asia (Bradley, J. D., W. G. Tremewan & A. Smith, 1979, British Tortricoid Moths, Tortricidae: Olethreutinae, London, 336 pp.; Benander, P., 1950, Svensk Insektfauna 10, Tortricina, 173 pp.; Bentinck, G. A., Graaf & A. Diakonoff, 1968, Monogr. Nederl. Entomol. Ver. 3, 201 pp.; Hannemann, H. J., 1961, Die Tierwelt Deutschlands . . . 48 . . . Tortricidae, 236 pp.; Kuznetsov, V. I., 1978, Taxonomic Key to Insects of the European USSR, 4, Lepidoptera, 21, Tortricidae, pp. 193–680 (Russian)).

The Michigan specimen has the forewing more intricately patterned than western European examples. It might be *E. albersana ussuriana* (Caradja, A., 1916, Deut. Entomol. Z. "Iris" 30:1–88), but no authentic representatives of this taxon were available to me for comparison. With a forewing length of 5.5 mm, the specimen is slightly




FIGS. 1, 2. Michigan specimen of *Eucosmomorpha albersana*: **1,** forewing pattern; **2,** male genitalia.